

For the second time this year, Sinclair Broadcasting has shown the dangers of media consolidation. First, the company demanded its stations not air a "Nightlight" program in which the names of American casualties in Iraq were read. Now, the company is forcing its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. Sinclair Broadcasting reaches 24 percent of American viewers. That is 24 percent who won't receive fair and balanced news coverage.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and the company is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Airing a one-sided program like "Stolen Honor" is a disservice to the public and it weakens the ability of the press to present all sides of the story.

The actions of Sinclair Broadcasting are indicative of why we need to strengthen media ownership rules. Thank you.